



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Gabon

Prime Minister Nguema Appoints Acting Ministers

AB0911135094 Libreville RTG Chaine Nationale Radio Network in French 0800 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Another home news item is the slight cabinet reshuffle that has taken place. Indeed, for the prime minister the idea is to avoid a vacuum resulting from the vacancy created by the refusal of three ministers of the High Council of the Resistance [HCR] to join the government and, perhaps, to make for the smoother functioning of the government. Here is (Jean-Paul Besse), adviser at the Office of the Prime Minister, with details on the matter:

[Begin (Besse) recording] To allow for the harmonious and sustained functioning of public departments, Pierre Claver Nzeng Ebome, minister delegate to the minister of justice and keeper of the seals, will act as minister of civil service and administrative reforms, while Patrice Nziengui, minister delegate to the minister of education and government spokesman, in charge youth and sports, will act as minister of social affairs and national solidarity.

Furthermore, by a decree signed today by the president of the Republic, the following appointments have been made:

Georges Isembe, former managing director of the National Estates Company [SNI], is appointed managing director of the National Rural Credit Bank [BNCR]. He takes over from Jacques Diouf who has been reposted. Antoine M'Boua, an architect by profession and a former assistant managing director of the SNI, has been appointed managing director of the SNI. Retiga Allain Ngouan, a social administration adviser, has been appointed assistant SNI managing director. For the Ministry of Finance, Economy, Budget, and Contributions, the following appointments have been made: Jacques Diouf, former BNCR managing director, has been appointed as an adviser. [end recording]

[Paris AFP in French at 0937 GMT on 9 November, in a Libreville-dated item, adds: "Gabonese Prime Minister Paulin Obame Nguema has appointed members of his cabinet to acting ministerial positions for the three portfolios allocated to the opposition and which have since remained vacant as a result of the original appointees' refusal to assume office, official sources disclosed in Libreville today."]

Rwanda

Justice Minister on War Crimes Tribunal

LD0911194894 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The UN Security Council decided yesterday to set up an international tribunal to try those responsible for the genocide in Rwanda. The new Kigali authorities voted against this. In fact they wanted it to be possible for the death sentence to be applied and they wanted the tribunal to be able to try crimes committed since 1990, and not just those which followed President Habyarimana's death. The Rwandan Government also wanted the tribunal to sit in Kigali and it wanted to be able to reject judges it considered not to be competent.

In Geneva this afternoon the Rwanda justice minister, Alphonse Nkubito, recalled these demands, but he did not rule out the possibility of collaboration with this tribunal later on:

[Begin Nkubito recording] The question is one of effectiveness: Can this international tribunal, which has been fixed upon without taking these points into account, be effective? The Rwandan Government reserved for itself the right to wait and see. We are in fact going to judge this tribunal on what it does. We are watching how things go. We planned to collaborate, but to collaborate within the framework which I have outlined to you. However, in the end this framework was rejected. This means that perhaps we shall continue with the negotiations to draw up a working framework and a framework for collaboration. [end recording]

Zaire

Haut-Zaire Citizens Petition Governor Against Refugees

AB0911214094 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Haut-Zaire citizens strongly protested the installation of Rwandan refugees in their region by sending a petition to the governor. [passage omitted] They justified their petition by saying that the Rwandans, because of their origin, have always, and I quote, distinguished themselves by a quarrelsome, inhuman, rigid attitude, and a sense of xenophobia heightened by an unprecedented sense of expansionism, unquote. The signatories of the petition explained their protest by recalling what happened in the Kivu Province where Rwandans attempted to impose themselves as members of some local tribes in order to facilitate their integration and increase their number through a clandestine immigration. [passage omitted]

Defense Force Denies Savimbi Assassination Plans

MB0911145594 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1400 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Defense says allegations by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] in Angola that South African mercenaries are planning to assassinate UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi has nothing to do with the South African Defense Force. It said the Defense Force was in no way directly involved in the Angolan civil war.

Earlier, the South African security personnel group Executive Outcomes, whose members are involved in the Angolan civil war, denied similar claims. In an interview with SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] Radio, Executive Outcomes Director Eben Barlow also denied claims by the Washington-based Free Angola Information Service that more than 50 of its members had left Durban for Angola to shore up government forces. Mr. Barlow alleged that UNITA had recruited the former members of SADF [South African Defense Force] units.

Land Affairs Minister Comments on Restitution Bill

MB0811154094 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1520 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] National Assembly Nov 7 SAPA—Victims of apartheid land policies had three years in which to lodge claims against dispossession which started with the 1913 Land Act, Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom said on Tuesday [8 November].

Introducing debate on the second reading debate on the Restitution of Land Rights Bill, he said the bill had struck the right balance in dealing with the expectations of the dispossessed and the uncertainties of land owners.

"The resolution of the land question is at the heart of our quest for liberation from political oppression, guilt, insecurity, rural poverty and under-development."

The bill only dealt with restitution and, as such, provided for a commission on the restitution of land rights and a specialised court, the land claims court.

The government, Mr Hanekom said, would have no legitimate means of stopping land invasions if the bill was not passed by the end of this parliamentary sitting. [passage omitted]

Mr Hanekom said the commission would deal with claims arising from dispossession of private land on the basis of racially discriminatory laws. The court, in turn, would be able to award compensation while prioritising state support in land reform programmes. [passage omitted]

The commission would be accessible to all and would help claimants in documenting their claims. It would also attempt to settle land claims by way of mediation and negotiation. In the case of disputes, the court would have the final decision-making powers.

The commission would be set up as a matter of urgency once the bill was passed.

Further on Assembly Debate

MB0811183294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1557 GMT 8 Nov 94

[Report by Patrick Bulger]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] National Assembly November 8 SAPA—The Restitution of Land Rights Bill—the first major piece of legislation aimed at undoing the wrongs of apartheid—went through the National Assembly in an occasionally acrimonious debate on Tuesday [8 November].

The bill, passed by 212 votes to 26 Freedom Front [FF] and Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] votes, will be considered by the Senate next week before being signed into law by President Nelson Mandela.

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom described the passage of the bill as "a momentous occasion."

"I have an enormous sense of history in the making," Mr Hanekom said concluding a debate in which the FF and IFP vigorously opposed the bill.

The debate was marked by a clash between Mr Hanekom and his predecessor, Mr Andre Fourie (NP) [National Party], who accused ANC members of capitulating and allowing the minister to bulldoze the bill through Parliament.

Mr Hanekom described Mr Fourie as a "master of gutter politics and distortion and dishonesty". He later withdrew the remarks after the NP raised a point of order.

The bill provides for a commission on the restitution of land rights which will assist claimants who will bring their claims to land from which they were evicted to a land claims court. Claims of eviction due to racially discriminatory legislation dating back to January 1913 will be entertained. The court will sit for three years.

The bill's passage was marred by allegations that the government had refused the South African Agricultural Union [SAAU] representing 60,000 commercial farmers a hearing. The Standing Committee on Land Affairs decided that no point would be served in the SAAU repeating orally what it had submitted in writing.

Mr Hanekom had been anxious to get the bill passed, arguing that a further three-month delay in its passage would leave the government without a legitimate means of preventing land invasions.

The bill would provide compensation for people who had been forcibly removed from their land.

"The bill is not about taking away people's land again. It is not about confiscation and coercion. It is about justice and reconciliation. It is part of our joint attempt to rebuild society, to reach out to one another with compassion and fairness."

Earlier Mr Pieter Grobelaar (FF) said the FF would not support the bill as it created the potential for conflict. The agricultural sector had not been adequately consulted.

Prof Harriet Ngubane (IFP) said the ANC displayed lip service towards transparency. The bill fell short of the expectations of the people. While the IFP was not opposed to land restitution, the bill was too narrow in scope and would benefit only a few.

Mr Clarence Makwetu (PAC) [Pan-Africanist Congress] supported the bill because it would benefit a few now, after he attacked it for stopping so far short of where it should have gone. He promised this was only the beginning of the land issue, not the end.

Two-hundred and thirty-eight MP's of a possible 400 voted on the bill.

De Klerk: U.S. Elections To Have 'No Effect' on Relations

MB0911192194 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In his reaction, Deputy President F.W. de Klerk said the election results will have no effect on the relationship between South Africa and the United States. Mr. De Klerk, who is on an official visit to Washington, said both the major parties in the United States are well-disposed to South Africa and support the process in the country.

Further on De Klerk Reaction

MB1011053494 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0101 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Report by Neil Lurssen]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington Nov 9 SAPA—The blow inflicted to President Bill Clinton's Democratic Party by the Republican Party's victory in Tuesday's [8 November] mid-term elections would have no effect on relations between the United States and South Africa, South African Deputy President F W de Klerk said on Wednesday [9 November].

South Africa was no longer a partisan issue, he said in Washington at the end a week-long visit to promote investment.

Mr De Klerk said he had no wish to interfere in U.S. internal politics or to evaluate the results which gave control of both chambers of Congress to the conservative Republicans.

"I do not for one moment think it can or will in any way seriously affect the relationship between the United States and South Africa," he said.

"Both major parties here, and all major parties across the world, are at the moment well disposed toward South Africa. They are supportive of the process which is taking place and we are no longer politically controversial."

Referring to a negative vote on aid to South Africa by a large number of Republican congressmen earlier this year, Mr De Klerk said it was a "hiccup" which could be solved.

"We must continue to market what we do. The process in South Africa is a very transparent one. It is a solid process aimed at reconciliation in a very responsible way," he said.

He said the economic policies of the government of national unity were fully acceptable to the Republicans and the whole direction of South Africa's new constitution was acceptable to all Americans.

Asked if he had encountered concerns among American businessmen about investing in South Africa, Mr De Klerk said he had been impressed by their enthusiasm.

Comparing the reaction he received now with the reaction among American businessmen a few months ago, he said South Africa had definitely made progress.

"There is much less of a wait-and-see attitude and business people are much more interested," he said.

But Mr De Klerk added the phasing out of the financial rand and the question of exchange control were important to investors and there was concern about whether South Africa would be able to meet the expectations of the people.

He said investors also voiced concern on whether a change in leadership, particularly within the African National Congress, would cause change.

He said concerns about Mr Mandela stemmed from the great respect he enjoyed in the United States and from the regular rumours about his health.

Mr De Klerk said he told questioners that based on his perception and on assurances from Mr Mandela himself, the president was basically a healthy man and the rumours were just rumours.

He also told them that should a change of leadership occur in South Africa there was sufficient depth of leadership for the country to continue on its course.

On meeting expectations, he explained to Americans that the Reconstruction and Development Programme was a thorough and cohesive plan which would deliver sufficiently to ensure that reasonable expectations would be met. There was already a greater sense of realism in South Africa, Mr De Klerk said.

Foreign Affairs Chief Reacts to U.S. Election Results

MB0911204494 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Interview with Hennie de Klerk, Department of Foreign Affairs U.S. Division chief by SABC political correspondent Freek Robinson on the "Agenda" program—live from the SABC Johannesburg studio]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Robinson] The Republicans are for the first time in 40 years back in the U.S. House of Representatives and also have control in the Senate. Well, it makes one wonder what is going to happen regarding their foreign policy. We have with us this evening Hennie de Klerk. He is chief of the Department of Foreign Affairs' U.S. Division. Mr. De Klerk, the Republicans have now taken over Congress. I am sure it makes matters difficult for a president to govern effectively?

[De Klerk] The American system is, of course, very different from ours. But even with the Democrats, President Clinton had problems pushing through certain legislation. Parties do not necessarily vote along party lines as we have here. So it is difficult to predict exactly what is going to happen. From a South African point of view, we do not foresee attitudes changing.

[Robinson] Why?

[De Klerk] There is a very strong feeling from both parties—it was obvious during President Mandela's visit—Democrats and Republicans, to help South Africa achieve success. Perhaps we don't even realize it as South Africans, but the Americans, the politicians in America, regard what happened in South Africa as a miracle—that people who fought hard against each other have indeed come together. So our approach is that South Africa will get foreign aid from the U.S. Government, but it is indeed the American private sector that is much more involved. For instance, there will be a meeting next week in Cape Town of pension directors who in actual fact handle \$500 billion. If we can get just one percent of that money here, then the amount will run into something like \$17 billion [figure as heard].

[Robinson] So what you are saying is perhaps that the American election and the political spirit has nothing to do with the private sector and its involvement in South Africa?

[De Klerk] That is true. So we must not think that the policy toward South Africa is going to change in any way.

[Robinson] But it is true that some people say the Republicans will try to make life as difficult as possible for President Clinton, and, secondly, it is traditional people who don't like to give money to foreign countries.

[De Klerk] To some extent yes, the Republicans are more sensitive regarding foreign aid, but as I made the point earlier, during President Mandela's visit, he also took a lot of time to chat with Senator Bob Dole, leader of the Republicans in the Senate. He also spoke to Newt Gingrich, the new speaker, and in the course of that meeting

there was a lot of support for the process taking place in South Africa. So we feel quite happy that even from the Republican side there will be support for President Clinton in terms of his approach toward South Africa.

[Robinson] What is your approach within the Department of Foreign Affairs? Are you going to make shifts and modifications to your own actions toward the U.S. Government and Congress, perhaps concentrate more on Congress rather than on the U.S. Government?

[De Klerk] Of course it can happen. Look, there are new personalities, new characters on the American political scene. Governor Cuomo, for example, lost his governorship in New York. So it will be the task of our ambassadorial personnel in Washington to strongly bring South Africa to the attention of those newcomers to Washington. We will have to concentrate on bringing some of them out here. You know Americans can quickly lose interest in a country, but at the moment there is still a particular interest in South Africa. You have been to America yourself and you saw what a big attraction Mr. Mandela was to the Americans, and it is very important for South Africa. While the Americans are still interested in our country, it is for us to sustain the private sector's attention.

[Robinson] Another point perhaps, while we were in America a lot of attention seems to have been given to the black caucus within Congress. Would that black caucus also be important to the Republicans and, through that caucus, will it concentrate on South Africa?

[De Klerk] It is true that the black caucus in America is extremely interested in Africa, and especially in South Africa at this point in time. But it is also correct, as I understand, that there are more black Republican Party members elected to the Senate and to Congress. But with us it's not so much about concentrating on specific groups. Our whole aim is to develop for South Africa, as the Americans call it, bipartisan [preceding word in English], a broader support; and to our advantage, as far as the Republicans are concerned, is that interest in South Africa has come a long way. It is just a matter of reviving that interest to bring South Africa to the attention of both Democrats and Republicans.

[Robinson] Finally, just to get practical. There is a South African commission being established in America by our Deputy Minister Thabo Mbeki and U.S. Vice President Al Gore—how is that commission going?

[De Klerk] We hope to make the meeting between Mr. Gore and Mr. Mbeki possible soon. It will form the framework for much broader cooperation between the two countries. You know, America is our number one trading country. It is the most important, no, the biggest—despite sanctions until very recently. So the opportunities to expand, the opportunity to attract the private sector's attention to South Africa exists now.

[Robinson] Thank you very much, Mr. De Klerk.

DP Leader Says ANC Obstructing Shell House Investigations

*MB0911180894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1600 GMT 9 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Deputy Minister Ronnie Kasrils and the Democratic Party [DP] have crossed swords again on the progress of the police investigation into the shooting incident at ANC headquarters during an IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] demonstration in central Johannesburg in March.

Speaking in Parliament, DP leader Tony Leon accused the ANC of obstructing police attempts to gain access to witnesses. He said that MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] cadres who were at the ANC headquarters during the shooting could have been moved to the Wallmannstal military base to get them away from police investigations.

Mr. Kasrils denied the accusations, saying the police had free access to the military base and to military records.

ANC Rejects Charges

*MB1011111194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1036
GMT 10 Nov 94*

[Statement issued by the ANC on the SAPA PR Wire Service on 10 November]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The ANC rejects allegations that it is engaged in a cover up and not cooperating with the police regarding events surrounding the shootings on 28 March 1994 at Shell House that resulted in the deaths of eight people. This has been demonstrated by the handing over to the police of 140 pistols and rifles for ballistic tests and making available four members of the movement to the SAPS [South African Police Service], after it had called them as probable witnesses. These four members, who cooperated with the police by giving their names, addresses and places of work, were instead subjected to harassment and threatened by the John Vorster police until the legal advisor of the SAPS, a Mr Roodt, was summoned. He subsequently apologised to the four and the ANC legal representatives.

The IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] and the police who were also directly involved in this particular incident have not submitted any weapons for ballistic tests and, to our knowledge, have not made available any persons who could assist in the investigation. We believe this to be the reason for the stalling of the investigation.

Assertions that a group of 140 MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] soldiers had been bused to shell house from Zimbabwe to participate in the shootings and that they subsequently claimed political asylum at Wallmannstal assembly point are devoid of truth. Thirty-nine soldiers of MK graduated at the Zimbabwe Military Academy on 25

March 1994 and arrived at Shell House on 27 March 1994 where they were given transport money to proceed to their various regions.

The only MK group that arrived at Wallmannstal on 28 March 1994 was a group of 140 soldiers who had come to the assembly point as an advance team, which was expected by the SADF [South African Defense Force] as per agreements reached with all non-statutory forces during the military negotiations, to prepare for military integration that was due to commence in April 1994. It is unfortunate that some members of the newly-formed SANDF [South African National Defense Force] did not find it necessary to give these facts on enquiries.

The incredible lapse of memory on the part of the press, the SAPS, the National Party [NP] and the Democratic Party [DP] regarding the rampage, carnage, death and destruction that accompanied the Inkatha meetings and the marches on the 28 March 1994 is totally absurd and points to a deliberate disinformation campaign directed against the ANC. Everybody seems to have deliberately forgotten that approximately sixty people died and 173 were injured in the events which the former law and order minister, Hernus Kriel, blamed on the Inkatha Freedom Party. The police, DP and NP have decided to selectively probe only the incident around Shell House and have said nothing about an inclusive investigation into the whole carnage of that day, the death of over fifty people, including attacks on the ANC PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] offices, keeping the ANC headquarters at Shell House under siege, and the killing by eleven armed men of a woman with a baby on her back.

The ANC once again calls for an all-inclusive investigation into all incidents of violence during that day, including the murder of the other 50 people on the said day. We will continue our cooperation with the police in this regard. So far we do not believe that the police have conducted any investigations into the other incidents, including the shootings at the Library Gardens. They seem to be primarily pre-occupied with the Shell House incident, to the dismay of the ANC and all South Africans.

The ANC leadership will address a press conference on this matter on Monday 14 November 1994, after the sitting of the National Executive Committee scheduled for this weekend.

Government To Finalize Housing Policy in 1995

*MB1011093394 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 0500 GMT 10 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government's housing policy will be finalized only early next year, because more time is needed for consultation. The director general of housing, Mr. Billy Cobbett, said in Cape Town that more input was needed, and that public hearings on the draft white paper should be considered. He said that

the government's draft housing policy would be handed to the cabinet by the end of this month. Changes could still be made before the white paper was tabled in Parliament early next year.

Constitutional Assembly Budget Cut 10%

MB101112694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1035
GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Constitutional Assembly Nov 10 SAPA—The Constitutional Assembly's [CA] proposed budget for 1995-96 has been cut by 10 percent in line with general government savings measures.

The proposed figure is now R59,424,000 [rands], the CA's management committee was told on Thursday [10 November]. CA Executive Director Mr Hassen Ebrahim said it had been approved by the Department of State Expenditure in Pretoria.

The CA, composed of South Africa's 400 MPs and 90 senators, is tasked by the interim constitution to write the country's final constitution by 9 May 1996.

Cabinet To Hold Special Meeting on 1995-96 Budget

MB1011093194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2348
GMT 9 Nov 94

[Report by Patrick Bulger]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town November 9 SAPA—The cabinet will hold a special meeting next week to prepare for the 1995-96 budget, the cabinet announced after its fortnightly meeting on Wednesday [9 November].

The announcement coincided with the passage through the Senate of the first post-apartheid budget passed four and a half months after being presented by then Finance Minister Derek Keys on 22 June.

The R135-billion [rands] 1994-95 budget was drawn up by the former National Party government, but accepted by the government of national unity amid calls from African National Congress mps for a drastic reduction in security spending.

Next year's budget, according to Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg, will signal to the international community the new government's priorities as well as its commitment to fiscal and monetary discipline.

The 1994-95 budget introduced the public at large to the Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP] which will become increasingly important in future budgets. A novel feature of the 1994-95 budget was the reduction in departments' budgets to allow R2.5-billion to be set aside for the RDP.

The 1995-96 budget will be the first to be presented by the government of national unity and the first to be

tailored by the dictates of the RDP and government's new public spending priorities.

Mr Liebenberg, who replaced Mr Keys more than halfway through the budget's passage through the legislature, and his deputy Alec Erwin have indicated that the 1995-96 budget will be drawn up on completely different lines to previous budgets.

In the past, departments were allocated inflation-linked increases on an incremental basis. In the future, each department will have to justify its expenses according to a list of criteria determined by minister without portfolio, Mr Jay Naidoo.

The criteria include whether the spending will promote affirmative action, social upliftment, prudent use of resources and the promotion of small and medium sized enterprises. Spending that does not fulfill those aims will theoretically have to fall way.

There will also be pressure for increased spending on social services, especially housing. The R2.2-billion this budget year, Housing Minister Joe Slovo has argued, is insufficient to support a national housing drive.

There are other departments that feel the same way.

Another feature of the budgeting process will be the extent to which departments will be willing and able to take over the recurrent spending incurred by the R2.5-billion worth of presidential or "kickstart" projects.

The departments are coming under pressure to take over RDP projects that fall within their line functions, thereby adding to their budgetary loads.

Features of the 1994-95 budget and its passage through Parliament were:

- The resignation of Mr Keys and his replacement by former banker Mr Liebenberg, who has said he will follow the broad direction set by his predecessor;
- Calls by senior African National Congress figures, including ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa, for spending cuts on security, and more spending on basic services;
- The establishment of the RDP fund of R2.5-billion from existing departmental budgets departments and a R40-billion commitment for the next four years;
- A 5 percent levy to raise R4-billion to pay for the transition to democracy elections, but a commitment that there would be no permanent rise in the general rate of taxation;
- Supply-side measures like a reduction in the rate of company tax from 40 percent 35 percent; and
- An increase in the rate of excise duties to raise more revenue on sales of tobacco and liquor.

The budgetary process was characterised by a firm government commitment to fiscal and monetary discipline.

Bank Pledges 14 Billion Rands Toward Development Program

MB1011093294 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] First National Bank [FNB] has pledged 14,000 million rands to RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] initiatives, which will commence early next year. The bank will fund the construction of low-cost housing, basic infrastructure building, education, health, and privatization.

About 10,000 million rands will be spent on low-cost housing over the next 10 years. The rest will be spent on the other projects over the next five years.

FNB Managing Director Barry Swart says it makes sound economic sense for business to engage in a constructive partnership with government to get RDP projects up and running.

Northern Transvaal Spends 95 Percent of Budget on Salaries

MB1011130394 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ninety-five percent of the Northern Transvaal's annual budget is spent on salaries for officials. The provincial agriculture minister, Dr. Tienie Burgers, said that only 5 percent of the budget was therefore available for development of essential projects.

Dr. Burgers told businessmen and interested parties in agriculture in Pietersburg that there are about 170,000 officials to serve the 5 million residents of the province.

Deputy Defense Minister: Political Control of Army Needed

MB0911141394 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Stephane Bothma]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pretoria—The establishment of effective political control over the armed forces through a ministry of defence was necessary to ensure the stability of civil-military relations, Deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils said yesterday. To this end, it had been proposed that a secretary of defence portfolio be created with responsibility for the formulation of defence policy and administration of the Defence Department, Kasrils told a SA [South African] Army Futures and Forecasts conference held at Unisa [University of South Africa].

"The Secretary will be the Minister's primary civilian adviser on defence matters and will have equal status to the Chief of the Defence Force," he told the conference.

The present position of Chief of the SA National Defence Force [SANDF] would also be maintained. He would remain the commander of the SANDF and would have responsibility for its maintenance and deployment. The Chief of the SANDF would be the Minister's primary military advisor.

Kasrils added that the ministry should always be subordinate and accountable to Parliament. He said the SA Army currently found itself between a rock and a hard place. "On the one hand it has a moral and political responsibility as dictated by the constitution to provide for the defence of the country. It cannot shirk this responsibility. On the other hand it has a current responsibility for internal stability and border protection—to shirk this would, I believe, be catastrophic," Kasrils said.

He said a detailed appreciation of the value of the armed forces in a developing democracy was needed. "To ensure that decisions are balanced with regard to the future of the armed forces, as many stakeholders as possible should be involved in such a review," he said, adding that the SANDF, Parliament, the parliamentary defence committees, the public and the arms industry should be involved.

South African Press Review for 9 Nov

MB0911122094

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

ANC-Police Relationship—"If there is disloyalty in police ranks, Mandela is right to be concerned," notes a page 16 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 9 November. "To trumpet dissatisfaction publicly, however, creates the impression that the police as a whole are under suspicion rather than a few individuals." THE STAR further notes that "while the police are accused of not investigating the Port Shepstone massacre vigorously enough, the ANC stands indicted of thwarting the police investigation into the Shell House massacre of 28 March, in which eight Zulu marchers were gunned down outside the ANC headquarters. The ANC, having initially refused to allow police to search the premises, later reneged on its promise to hand over weapons for ballistic tests." It was only after the matter was raised in Parliament by Democratic Party leader Tony Leon that the pledge was fulfilled. "As NP [National Party] Senator David Malatsi remarks, it is not a healthy situation if there appears to be one law for ANC members and another for the rest of the nation."

ANC Shift From Nationalization to Privatization—In an article on the same page Patrick Laurence writes that a "profound ideological shift" has occurred in the ANC since Mandela's release from prison in February 1990. This shift has seen the ANC's Reconstruction and Development Program, RDP, "replace" the 1955 Freedom Charter as its ideological cornerstone. "The RDP has replaced the Freedom Charter as the centrepiece of ANC

policy, bringing with it an increased emphasis on privatisation and a corresponding marginalisation of nationalism." The ANC's revised view on privatisation is, "in part, a product of a trade-off with its partners in the Government. They have accepted the broad thrust of the ANC's RDP; the ANC has revised its views in the nationalisation versus privatisation debate." Furthermore the ANC is "saddled with an enormous Government debt" and it "desperately needs to reduce the huge debt and the crippling interest payments." Also, "to fund its ambitious RDP plan, on which its chances of re-election in 1999 largely depend, the ANC desperately needs to save money."

SOWETAN

Land Invasions—A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 9 November comments on the invasion of land by squatters, noting that "in the heyday of forced removals and influx control, people were simply thrown out and their homes bulldozed. Things have changed." "The new politics is developing creative ways of solving what seems to be intractable social ills. We are not there yet. There is still grave injustice and heartbreak. But attempts are made to satisfy, if only in part, all the parties."

BUSINESS DAY

No Consultation on Additional Taxes—"Has the word 'transparency' not yet permeated through to the Department of Finance?" asks a page 16 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 9 November. "Or is it taking ad hoc decisions on additional taxes with little reference to anyone outside?" The paper refers to proposals in the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill that Value-Added Tax, VAT, be levied on financial services charges. Peter Franck, the finance deputy director for VAT, "claims the proposals are not intended to broaden the scope of VAT. However, ahead of the Katz commission's report on taxation, it is proposed that VAT be levied on stockbrokers' charges and on insurance salesmen's commissions." The insurance industry is concerned that the Department of Finance did not consult it "beforehand." "Consultation is not just a matter of courtesy. It is essential, given the extent and complexity of the country's financial services industry."

South African Press Review for 10 Nov

MB1011125194

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Mandela Casts Suspicion on Police Loyalty—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 8 November in its page 6 editorial says it had hoped that "the anti-police tendencies of the ANC had ended," but at the weekend President Mandela "had a go at them." "Speaking on Saturday during a surprise visit to the ANC's

PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] provincial conference in Berea, Johannesburg, he announced he is to hold a meeting on Thursday of the top echelons of the police to impress upon 'people in government' that the African National Congress was in charge of the country." THE CITIZEN believes Mandela "is wrong in casting suspicion on the loyalty of the police. Their function is not to be for or against the government of the day but to apply the law impartially."

National Party 'Too Acquiescent'—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 9 November in its page 6 editorial finds the National Party, NP, "too acquiescent in what the ANC does." The paper points to the passing in the National Assembly of the Restitution of Land Rights Bill with only the Inkatha Freedom Party and the Freedom Front voting against it. "Yet the NP knows of the misgivings and anxieties of farmers, its erstwhile supporters, as expressed through their agricultural unions. The bill, they felt, was rushed through Parliament without interested parties, as originally intended, being able to express their views. They will not forgive the NP if their fears are realised."

THE STAR

Land Restitution—"The Restitution of Land Act marks the beginning of a process which aims to deal rationally and in organised way with what is, frankly, an insoluble problem," says a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 10 November. The paper believes the principles of the new act "are sound." "Genuine victims will be helped, freebooters will be shown the door, and mediation will ensure that even in those cases where land is appropriated there is fair compensation." The public is urged to "show patience and understanding" in judging the efforts of the Lands Claims Court, "remembering the apposite warning that if we do not resolve the fundamental question of land, we might as well not bother fixing anything else."

BUSINESS DAY

Land Restitution—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 10 November in a page 14 editorial comments on the Restitution of Land Rights Bill which "should be managed in a way that convinces prospective investors that this is a country committed to a progressive, market-driven economy. South Africa cannot afford to follow Zimbabwe's route of expropriating white-owned land with little recourse to independent adjudication." BUSINESS DAY warns that restitution cannot mean "squatting" on land or the "occupation of empty apartment blocks in Hillbrow. It has to be part of the housing programmes being guided by Joe Slovo, Kadar Asmal's water supply plans and Jeff Radebe's public works programmes." Land restitution must "not only help create healthy living conditions but also develop efficient farming opportunities in the countryside and urban employment opportunities being sought by migrants to the country's industrial heartland."

Angola

UNITA Says RSA Mercenaries Plan Savimbi Assassination

MB0911114194 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Angolan UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] movement claims that South African special forces mercenaries hired by the Angolan Government are planning to assassinate UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi. UNITA's high command in Huambo said 55 former members of the crack South African 4th and 5th reconnaissance units had left Durban for Angola two days ago. The spokesman said foreign mercenaries had played a major role in the latest government offensive against UNITA's headquarters in Huambo.

Barroso: UNITA's Only Alternative Is To Sign Accord

LD0911132194 Lisbon Radio Rerascenca in Portuguese to Europe 1130 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has reiterated that its delegation will only travel to Lusaka if the government's offensive against Huambo stops immediately. In a communique read on UNITA radio, Vorgan, the UNITA presidency asked the international community—the United States in particular—to press the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] to halt the fighting. [passage omitted] David Damiao is in parliament with the Portuguese foreign minister's latest statements on Angola. [passage omitted]

[Begin Barroso recording] Well, the problem is: What is the alternative? I know that at the moment it is very difficult for UNITA to be ready to sign the accord under the circumstances, but what is the alternative?

Does UNITA think that in one or two month's time it will be better off? Will it be? Therefore, I think there is no alternative to peace, there is no positive alternative that is. Of course there is an alternative, which is to continue the war—to sustain this situation for many more years, with many more thousands of Angolans dying, that is an alternative but it is a bad alternative.

We recommend that both sides, the government and UNITA, prepare to sign the Lusaka protocol. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Red Cross Facility Near Huambo Attacked, No One Hurt

LD0911144094 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We have just heard that Red Cross installations have been taken near the city of

Huambo, more specifically, four km away [from Huambo]. According to the LUSA news agency, unidentified armed individuals carried out the attack. Humanitarian aid staff who work at the Red Cross installations escaped unhurt.

UN Confirms Huambo Has Fallen to Government Forces

LD0911163094 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FEIS Translated Text] Huambo has fallen to Angolan Government troops. The RDP international correspondent in Luanda has just confirmed this. Mario Paiva obtained this confirmation from UN officials.

[Paiva] The city of Huambo, former UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] headquarters in the central highlands, has finally fallen to Angolan Government forces. UN sources in Luanda have confirmed. The United Nations is currently trying to evacuate humanitarian aid staff retained in the city.

UNITA forces have lost control of Huambo, which they had captured in March 1993 after 55 days of fierce fighting, which caused more than 12,000 deaths. According to the latest information from the humanitarian organizations working in Huambo, government forces are truly in control of the city following a carefully organized offensive on the western front where UNITA positions were gradually taken.

Aranda da Silva, the UN unit coordinator for humanitarian aid, confirmed that the 54 foreign members of staff based in Huambo are currently in the hands of government forces, waiting to be evacuated from an International Red Cross Committee building. Aranda da Silva said there were minor clashes in the city and added that the government forces' final assault on Huambo was relatively peaceful.

So far there has been no official reaction, nor any public announcement in the Angolan media confirming the total fall of Huambo.

Official: UNITA Not To Attend Meeting; Savimbi in Huambo

MB0911184494 Maputo TVM Television Network in Portuguese 1800 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Reports from Brussels say that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] representative in that country said his movement will not be present in Lusaka for the meeting of the chiefs of the general staffs of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola and UNITA armies. He said [UNITA leader Jonas] Savimbi remains in Huambo, where intense clashes are currently under way between government troops and Jonas Savimbi's movement.

Official Criticizes U.S. Condemnation of Huambo Assault*MB0911193994 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 9 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] In an interview with Luanda Commercial Radio today, Secretary of State for Cooperation Johny Eduardo Pinock asked why the United States does not guarantee the defense of democracy in Angola as it did in Haiti. Pinock was reacting to the condemnation of the Angolan Government by the United States for recapturing Huambo. Johny Pinock asked: Why did the United States not condemn the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] when it occupied Huambo in 1993? He said if UNITA captured Luanda tomorrow, no one will protest that way. In conclusion, he said the government has the responsibility of acting in defense of national defense.

Government Declaration Affirms Commitment to Peace*MB1011093594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 9 Nov 94*

[Statement issued by the Angolan Government in Luanda on 9 November]

[FBIS Translated Text] We are commemorating the 19th anniversary of our independence, which was proclaimed by the late beloved President Agostinho Neto. We are commemorating this day at a particularly delicate time of both great hope and many uncertainties. The Government of the Republic of Angola is well aware of this situation and it calls on Angolan people to joyfully mark this day of liberation from Portuguese colonialism, which signaled the start of a march that has restored our dignity and pride as Angolan people, irrespective of where we may be and notwithstanding our political or religious beliefs.

The years of the armed struggle against the colonial system were both long and hard. Our combatants often had to show courage, selflessness, and heroism. Often, too, our soldiers had to lay down their lives. The people also had to make sacrifices and show courage in the face of repression.

The 11th of November 1975 arrived, and our country's glorious flag was finally hoisted, thereby putting an end to five centuries of dependency and humiliation. As we all know, the postindependence period has not been easy. The national reconstruction effort has always been hamstrung by a war that we have never wanted but has been waged against us nonetheless.

We have had to face foreign aggression, both from the north and from the south. We have had to deal with a war of subversion supported from outside. Its biggest supporter was the apartheid system, then Africa's biggest enemy. We defeated all, and at the same time we helped our sister people of Namibia achieve their independence.

Conditions were then in place for us to begin the democratization process and to establish multiparty democracy in our country in line with the peace accords signed in Bicesse.

During those 18 months of precarious peace, freedom was extended to all Angolan people—with the exception of those who were in the few areas over which the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] maintained illegal control—and we managed finally to start rebuilding what the war had destroyed. Hundreds of kilometers of roads and railroads and thousands of bridges and pontoons were repaired and recovered. The economy experienced what can be described as spectacular growth, if we take into account developments in the rest of Africa. UNITA threw all that growth down the drain with its obstinate refusal to accept the outcome of the September 1992 elections, and we had to face yet another two years of the most destructive war that our people have ever known.

Meanwhile, we arrived at the signing of the Lusaka protocol. The aim of the Angolan Government and of all Angolan people of good faith is that the spirit, letter, and dates of the terms of the Lusaka protocol be scrupulously adhered to. That is our firm wish.

We shall do everything in our power to ensure that peace comes on the date that has been scheduled. It is true that fighting is still taking place at this point, but it is not any less true that the cease-fire is only due to come into force two days after the formal signing of the peace accord.

At this stage, the government of the Republic of Angola is determined to achieve peace and fulfill the terms of the Lusaka protocol, but it is equally determined to maintain national unity and legality throughout Angolan territory in accordance with the terms of the protocol.

To commemorate 19 years of independence is also a way of contributing toward and cementing fraternity among the Angolan people, thereby helping create a climate of tolerance indispensable to the democratic coexistence we would like to see at work in our beloved Angolan fatherland.

Government Military Delegation Arrives for Talks*MB0911194694 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 9 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A meeting of government and National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] military leaders is scheduled to begin in Lusaka on 10 November. Only the Angolan Armed Forces' delegation is in Lusaka so far. Alioune Blondin Beye, who was scheduled to leave Luanda for Lusaka this morning, postponed his departure and has not said when he will leave the country. UNITA General Paulo Lukamba Gato said his movement's delegation will not go to Lusaka for security reasons. [passage omitted]

Media Not Able To Confirm Huambo's Occupation

MB0911201294 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The government and National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] military leaders must meet on 10 November in the Zambian capital within the framework of the Lusaka Protocol. General Pedro Neto, head of the government military delegation, left Luanda today for the Zambian capital, where other members of his delegation are already. Peace talks mediator Alioune Blondin Beye will not leave for Lusaka until 10 November. No reasons were given for postponing his departure.

In turn, UNITA says it is not in a position to be in Lusaka because of the recapture of Huambo by the Angolan Armed Forces. Our correspondent Alves Fernandes has further details.

According to reports, the government has in fact occupied the city of Huambo. The press has not been to the fighting front yet, however, to observe on the spot the occupation of Huambo by the government. One thing is certain: Huambo is no longer what it was 15 days ago. We also must say that there is a massive movement of senior Angolan Armed Forces officers here in Catumbela, leading us evidently to think that the operations are being led from here. In the coming hours, we will have a better picture of what is going on in this corner of the country.

Radio Says FAA Forces Hold 'Absolute Control' Over Huambo

MB1011064094 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] have established absolute control over the city of Huambo. The last isolated pockets of National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] resistance have been annihilated. Reliable sources say that the people expressed their joy yesterday when the bulk of the FAA forces entered the capital of the Angolan Central Plateau.

In the interim, the FAA forces have continued to expand the defensive cordon around the city, while the UNITA guerrillas continue to flee in disarray.

Meanwhile, Aranda da Silva, humanitarian aid coordinator for Angola, and (Adolfo de Peta), International Committee of the Red Cross information delegate, have both confirmed that the workers of the humanitarian aid organizations operating in Huambo are safe and sound. [passage omitted]

Savimbi Reportedly Calls Off Signing of Peace Accord

MB1011131094 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1300 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Angolan peace process appears to have collapsed amid indications that the former Frontline States may intervene and that UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Jonas Savimbi has called off the signing of a peace accord with Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos next week.

Liberia**Faction Leaders Reportedly Reject Akosombo Agreement**

AB0911105194 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Reports from Accra, Ghana, say representatives of three warring factions in Liberia, the LPC [Liberia Peace Council], LDF [Lofa Defense Force], and the Coalition Forces have rejected the Akosombo Accord signed by three other factions in the Liberian crisis. The reports say the three signatories to the Akosombo Accord, Lieutenant General J. Hezekiah Bowen, of the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia], Mr. Alhaji Koromah of ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Koromah version], and Mr. Charles Taylor, NPFL-II [National Patriotic Front of Liberia-II] have no power to sign any such accord as they, Charles Taylor and Alhaji Koromah do not reside in Liberia and Gen. Bowen and the AFL have been encamped and disarmed since the 15 September foiled coup. The reports also noted that the three signatories to the Akosombo Accord have also signed a two-page document in Ghana, reaffirming their support for their Akosombo Accord which will give them power to rule Liberia for 11 months before elections can take place in the country.

Meanwhile, the unsatisfied warring factions are still in Ghana holding consultative meetings with ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] chairman, Ghanaian President Jerry John Rawlings.

ULIMO's Johnson Comments on Recent Peace Talks

AB0911180094 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Nov 94

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Once again in Liberia, there is a peace deal on paper, but how will it be put into practice? As Liberia's warring faction leaders and civilian politicians returned home from the talks in Ghana, it remained unclear what role there will be for the Liberia National Transitional Government [LNTG] in the weeks ahead, even if the warlords do bury their differences to form an interim government. Kojo Badu-Addo asked Major General Roosevelt Johnson of the ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] Krahn section how he sees their role.

[Begin recording] [Johnson] Look, let me state crystal clear: The expired LNTG came into being through the formation of the warring parties which made them and there were certain mandates given to the expired LNTG and a time factor laid for them to implement this mandate, and they have failed. Obviously, it is the responsibility of the warring parties, which made the expired LNTG, to put into place a government that will

carry out the wishes of the Liberian people, that is, to have the country disarmed (?completely). Now, if you are asking what will happen to them, it is like giving a man a job and he has failed to carry out this job and then he brought in a new employee and you want to know what is going to happen to the ex-employee. So, we find it very difficult to answer.

[Badu-Addo] Now, they are rather dissatisfied with what is going on. They have criticized this deal as a militia-dominated collective leadership. What do you have to say in response to that?

[Johnson] Precisely, it is not surprising. If someone has been given a task to perform and he fails to accomplish this task and you want to replace him, obviously he is not going to say any good thing about you. You are talking about a military junta. I do not care how you may term it, whether a military junta or what kind of junta you may term it, but once it has the power to disarm and take the arms from the fighters, I think this is what the Liberian people want, but I think this is not a military junta.

[Badu-Addo] What role will be given to factions like the Liberian Peace Council [LPC] who are not part of this signing of this accord?

[Johnson] Look, what we are primarily concerned about is to have accommodation for all of our brothers and sisters within Liberia. I think we have come to an understanding with the LPC that they will be accommodated within the government, likewise the LDF [Lofa Defense Force]. [end recording]

Nigeria**Abacha Receives ULIMO Leader; Koromah Comments**

AB0911212594 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The leader of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], one of the warring factions in Liberia, Lieutenant General Koromah, was in Abuja today to confer with the head of state, Gen. Sani Abacha. The ULIMO leader was accompanied by a member of the Transitional Legislative Assembly in Liberia, Mr. Seku Koromah. Gen. Koromah spoke to State House correspondents about his visit:

[Begin recording] [Koromah] This is part of a tour to meet with ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] contributing countries, Nigeria being an extremely significant contributor.

[Unidentified correspondent] ECOWAS leaders are saying that they will withdraw their troops from Liberia. So how are the factional leaders taking this?

[Koromah] I was not told that by President Abacha, neither President Rawlings nor Strasser, nor Conte, the leaders I have visited so far. [end recording]

Former Senator Released After 45 Days

AB0911201094 Paris AFP in English 1943 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Nov 9 (AFP)—Former senator Polycarp Nwite, arrested on 25 September for an alleged plan to bomb strategic installations, told AFP Wednesday [9 November] he had been released after 45 days in detention.

Denying that he ever had any plans to carry out violent actions in any part of the country, Nwite said police had released him Tuesday evening.

"I do not know anything about the allegation. I am not a terrorist, neither do I believe in ordinary street demonstrations nor vandalisation of property", he told AFP.

He said that the conditions in detention were bad but added that the police could not offer more than the facilities that were available.

Supreme Court President Warns Against Ignoring Court Orders

AB0911182094 Paris AFP in English 1157 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Nov 9 (AFP)—The President of Nigeria's Supreme Court, Mohammed Bello, has warned that the military government's failure to respect court orders was "subversion" and will lead to anarchy, press reports said Wednesday [9 November].

The junta's disobedience of rulings by competent courts has been "more pronounced where applications for the enforcement of fundamental human rights or... orders are made to produce detainees", Bello said Tuesday. He gave the warning in an address read on his behalf in Minna in the north by the president of the Federal Court of Appeal, Mustapha Akanbi, at the opening of the 21st national conference of the Magistrates Association of Nigeria.

General Sani Abacha's junta has on several occasions failed to pay any heed to rulings by the courts.

Most recently, it has refused to release on bail detained opposition leader Moshood Abiola, defying an order made Friday by the Federal Court of Appeal in the northern town of Kaduna.

Chief Abiola is jailed on treason charges in the federal capital Abuja. The millionaire politician was detained in June after he declared himself head of state a year after presidential elections he is presumed to have won before the poll was voided by the military.

Compliance with court orders was "fundamental" to the good order, peace and stability of the nation, Bello stated. He added that the military's failure to respect them should not be seen as a slight on the judges who

made the orders but as "subversion." "The resultant loss of respect for the courts will quickly result to anarchy, chaos and disruption of the society," Bello said.

He said that the fact that the government was beset with grave national problems should not be an excuse for it to disobey court orders, the reports added.

Defending the junta's disrespect for court orders, Justice Minister Michael Agbamuche said in Lagos on Tuesday that the government had the right to "ignore court judgments bordering on ouster clauses."

He was referring to recent decrees ending the jurisdiction of the courts to hear certain cases, particularly those of people being held as alleged national security risks.

"If we did not stop courts from looking into certain cases, we would be in trouble," he said at a news conference.

Security Agents Arrest Human Rights Activist

AB0911171094 Paris AFP in English 1657 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Nov 9 (AFP)—Leading Nigerian human rights activist Beko Ransome-Kuti was arrested here Wednesday [9 November] at his residence by security agents, the Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CDHR) said.

Ransome-Kuti, chairman of the Campaign for Democracy (CD), the umbrella organisation for about 40 human rights bodies, was picked up by plain-clothed security men and driven to his residence, the CDHR said. Ransome-Kuti is also president of the CDHR.

The security men searched his room and then arrested him, taking him to the headquarters of the the Federal Intelligence and Investigation Bureau (FIIB), the CDHR said.

He was accused of receiving six million naira (\$273,000) from Chief Moshood Abiola, the presumed winner of last year's 12 June presidential election, to "bomb government installations and strategic buildings," according to the CDHR statement.

Ransome-Kuti spent a week in jail in September but was granted bail on 21 September by a magistrates' court here.

He was then accused of having sent threatening letters to the directors of two oil companies—Agip of Nigeria and the Shell Petroleum Development Company—obliging them to participate in an oil strike which crippled business in July and August.

Ransome-Kuti has been outspoken in his support of Abiola, a millionaire Moslem businessman arrested on

23 June after he proclaimed himself president to mark the first anniversary of the poll annulled by the military regime last year.

Togo

Interior Minister: By-Elections May Be Postponed

*AB0811223094 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830
GMT 8 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] In Togo, it is possible that the legislative by-elections will be postponed because of nonpublication of the official list of candidates in the three constituencies where the elections are to be held. For Interior Minister Kodjo Sagbo, this is due to continuing discussions with Mr. Agboyibor's Action Committee for Renewal [CAR], the main opposition group. In an interview with our correspondent Jacques Douti Sourou, Minister Sagbo is astonished at the CAR's refusal to participate in these elections:

[Begin Sagbo recording] We do not understand why those who have been pushing for elections so quickly are now asking us not to hold elections quickly. What is certain is that discussions are continuing. They have not stopped and I will go further and say that we have so far not published the list of the candidates because the opposition asked us not to publish it. We have said that we are responsible officials and we shall go step by step until we get to a compromise. We are astonished to hear on the radio that the government does not want to publish this list. This is very unfortunate. [end recording]

For his part, Mr. Agboyibor is happy that dialogue has resumed between the government and his political party. He recalled, however, that his decision to suspend the participation of his party in the forthcoming legislative by-elections as well as in the deliberations of the National Assembly is motivated by the silence of the authorities in the face of the conditions he had set to the government. Listen to Mr. Agboyibor as he talked to our correspondent Jacques Douti Sourou:

[Begin Agboyibor recording] We wrote to the head of government who in turn asked the [interior] minister to reply to us rejecting all the conditions we had set. So, that letter rejected our conditions. In turn, we reacted by

writing to the minister and asking that discussions are held between the government and the opposition. The government then kept a scornful silence and this situation motivated our decision to suspend our participation in the deliberations of the National Assembly. So far, there have been no discussions between the government and the opposition. We hope that through the reaction of the interior minister, there is now a desire to negotiate with the opposition and this is good. [end recording]

CAR Parliamentary Group Boycotts Regular Session

*AB1011140094 Lome Radio Lome in French 1230
GMT 10 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The fifth regular session of the National Assembly opened this morning at the Palais des Congres, Lome, under the chairmanship of Speaker Dahuku Pere, with 42 deputies in attendance. The Action Committee for Renewal [CAR] parliamentary group, in keeping with its directive suspending its participation in the business of the Assembly, stayed away this morning.

Four items were featured on the agenda, namely: the adoption of the agenda; the report on the third regular session; information; and other matters. All these items were examined and passed, but it was the item on information that raised the liveliest debate. The speaker of the National Assembly briefed the parliamentarians on his communications with the CAR leadership. Here, the parliamentarians observed that the quarrel between the CAR and the government was due to a lack of information, and considered the CAR's action to be unilateral. Hence, the parliamentarians urged the government to appear before them in order that more light might be thrown on the issue.

The invitation extended to the government by the parliamentarians stems from the latter's determination to contribute to a speedy resolution of the crisis. For some parliamentarians, the situation is most uncomfortable, more so as it partially paralyzes the National Assembly and other democratic institutions. Another plenary session is scheduled to take place tomorrow at 0800. [passage omitted]

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